The Centreville National Bank is one of the finest small Beaux Arts bank buildings in Maryland. Designed by Hill and Thompson of Newark, New Jersey and constructed by James A. McAllen of Princess Anne, this building replaced an earlier bank designed by J. R. Neilson of Baltimore. The earlier building was constructed in 1876 and burned in the 1902 fire. The new building cost a total of \$23,000 and was completed in early 1904. It is distinguished by a carefully ordered composition featuring glazed Roman brick walls, a granite foundation and a richly detailed stone cornice. Further decoration includes the pedimented entrances, the decorative stone architraves and leaded transoms on all openings, and the paneled banking room with coffered ceiling.

# INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

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SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDE
OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
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	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	
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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

X\_EXCELLENT \_\_GOOD

\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED
\_\_RUINS
\_\_UNEXPOSED

X-UNALTERED \_\_ALTERED

CORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Centreville National Bank is located on the southwest corner of North Commerce Street and Lawyers Row. The building has entrances on both the east wall, facing Commerce Street, and on the north facade, facing the Courth House green.

Constructed in 1903-1904, the Centreville
National Bank is a one story masonry building that
replaced an earlier building that stood 1 1/2 blocks
to the south on Commerce Street. The previous bank
building, constructed in 1876, was destroyed in
the 1902 fire that swept through this part of the
business district.

The east facade, facing South Commerce Street, is dominated by an elaborate, decorative entrance in the center of this elevation. Large double doors are recessed in an arched opening set off by fluted Ionic columns resting on high bases and supporting an ornate, projecting pediment. Large windows flank the center bay. These have a single light with a leaded transom set in a molded granite frame with molded sill and lintel supported by carved floral brackets. The wall is laid in stretcher bond Roman brick of a rust brown color with flecks

#### 7.1 DESCRIPTION

of dark above a granite foundation with a simple beveled water table. A broad, refined cornice is carried across the upper part of the facade. The cornice is a lighter stone, elaborately molded with a complex crown mold, carved brackets, and courses of egg-and-dart and dentil block moldings above a cushion frieze and rabbeted fascia. The name of the bank is cut into the frieze of the projecting pediment over the door. The decorative stonework is of very high quality in both design and workmanship and combines extremely well with the richly colored Roman brick. The entrance is further enriched with a paneled stone soffit, yellow marble jambs, and a leaded transom above the double doors.

The north facade, facing the Court House green, is essentially an expanded version of the east facade. The principal part of the north facade is three bays long, with an equally grand entrance in the center bay, flanked by large triple windows to either side. At the west end of the building, a fourth bay is set back about two feet from the principal plane of the building, housing the office of the bank president. The set-back delineates the separation of public part of the building from the more private office space. A single large

#### 7.2 DESCRIPTION

window is centered in this fourth bay.

The decorative composition and detailing of the north facade are essentially identical to the east wall. The double doors are not set back in an arched recess and the windows are larger, but the pedimented entrance, the granite foundation, Roman brick walls and elaborate stone cornice all mirror the Commerce Street facade.

The west facade faces a narrow alley that separates this building from the old Queen Anne's National Bank to the west. There are two windows in the west wall, similar to the north windows but with simpler frames. The foundation, brickwork and cornice are just as fine as the east and north facades.

The east end of the south facade has been covered by another building on South Commerce Street, now used by the bank as office space. The exposed, west portion of the south facade is laid with plain red brick in eight-course bond above a plain granite foundation. The upper portion of the molded stone cornice is carried across this facade, but the lower frieze is omitted. There is a plain door near the center of the exposed portion of the wall, a large window with leaded transom to the left of the door and two small 1/1 windows with stone sills to the right.

#### 7.3 DESCRIPTION

The interior of the bank is composed of a large rectangular public area to the east, a large vault at the west end of the public area, and the president's office to the west. The public area is divided by a long L shaped teller's counter running parallel to the east and north walls, with desks and a stair to the cellar occupying the area enclosed behind the counter. A reception area along the north side of the vault leads to the president's office.

The president's office is richly paneled with walnut wainscot below a bold chairrail. A water color architectural rendering of the bank hangs on the wall.

The main banking room is also paneled on the north and east walls. The ceiling is coffered with decorative plaster molding in the large inset panels and large molded brackets along the walls forming the terminus of each rib of the coffering. The north and east doors are flanked by Ionic pilasters. Other details of interest include the classical frieze with egg-and-dart molding and surmounted by a clock set in a heavily carved frame above the door to the vault and the glazed brick or tile facing on the vault.

Two doors in the south wall lead to the banking offices in the adjoining building.

PERIOD	AR	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	XECONOMICS ,	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART CONTROL OF THE CO	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	<b>₹</b> commerce	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
X_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1903-04

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Hill and Thompson, Architects

James A. McAllen, Builder

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Centreville National Bank is one of the finest small Beaux Arts banks in Maryland. The exterior is distinguished by a carefully ordered composition featuring glazed Roman brick, a granite foundation, and a richly detailed stone cornice. Further decoration includes the pedimented entrances flanked with Ionic columns, leaded glass transoms above the doors and windows, decorative stone architraves, and yellow marble panels in the east entrance recess. The principal banking room of the interior has richly paneled walls, a coffered ceiling and a glazed tile vault. The president's office, to the west of the banking room, is also paneled with walnut wainscot. A water color architectural rendering of the bank hangs on the wall of this office.

The present bank building was constructed in 1903-04 and replaced an earlier bank built in 1876.

### 8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This earlier building was designed by noted Baltimore architect J.R. Neilson and was located 1 1/2 blocks to the south on Commerce Street. That building was destroyed in a fire that swept the Centreville business district in December 1902. The present building was designed by the architectural firm of Hill and Thompson from Trenton, New Jersey and was constructed by James A. McAllen of Princess Anne at a cost of \$16,000. The interior work was contracted to C. J. Benson Co. of Baltimore at a cost of \$7000. The building contract was awarded in April 1903, the interior contract in July and the first Board meeting was held in the completed building in May 1904.

QA-307

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Emory, Frederick. Queen Anne's County, Maryland. Baltimore, 1950.
Minutes of the Board of Directors, Centreville National
Bank. (Stored in vault)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

GEOGRAPH ACREAGE OF NOMIN	IICAL DATA		. jy
VERBAL BOUNDA	ARY DESCRIPTION		
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Field Notebook QA-X; Recorded June 19, 1979.

QA-XIX; Recorded October 10, 1980.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

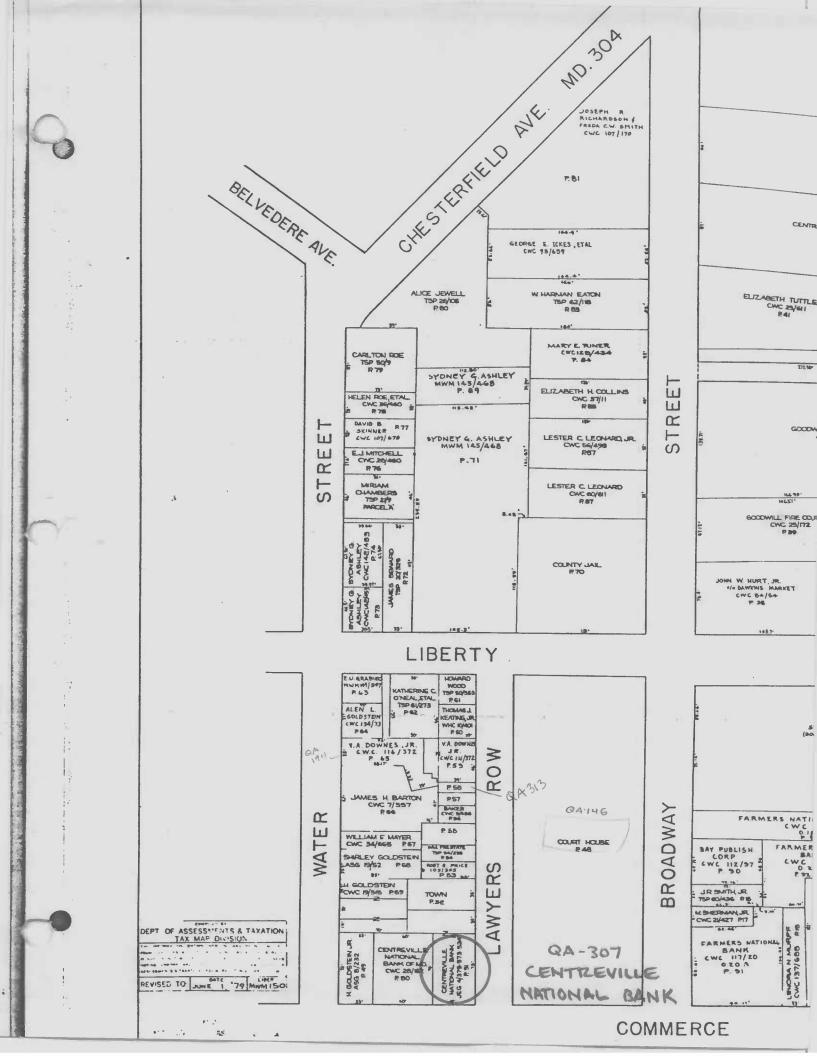
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State (

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

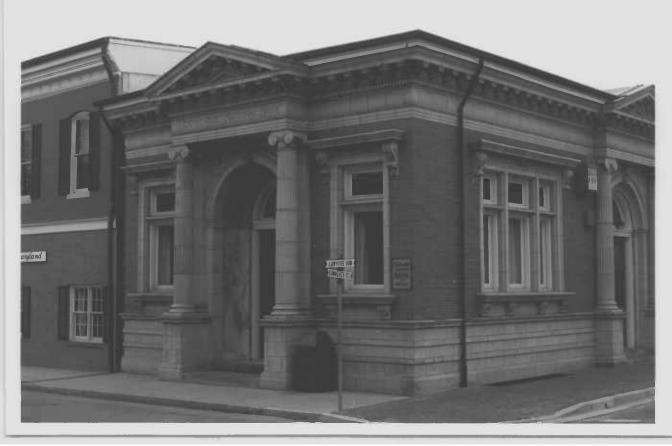
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438





QA-307 Centreville National Bank Centreville, Maryland Orlando Ridout V 1980 View from North



QA-307 Centreville National Bank Centreville, Maryland Orlando Ridout V 1980 View from Northeast



QA-307 Centreville National Bank Centreville, Maryland Orlando Ridout V 1980 Interior, facing East



QA-307 Centreville National Bank Centreville, Maryland Orlando Ridout V 1980 Interior, facing West